

Detective



Joe's Professional Life 6

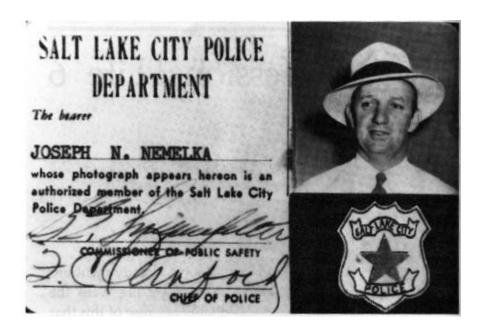
As I have already mentioned, the most important things in Joe's life were the Church and his family. It is probably because of this that Joe's professional activities were quite varied and perhaps somewhat conservative by some standards.

After Joe was hired by the clover Leaf Dairy as a delivery man, we had more money and were able to buy furniture and a washing machine. We were really happy to have more money—sometimes as much as \$200.00 a month. His move to the Police department, while more secure, brought a big decrease in our monthly income. He had to gradually work himself up to receive more money. I think he was in every department of the Police Force except the traffic department. He was offered a motorcycle several times but didn't accept. He was afraid the continual bouncing would be too hard on his system.

At one point during his career with the police force, Joe felt that he needed a change in his responsibilities, so he wrote this letter to the Chief of Police.

January 14, 1944

To: Chief Reed E. Vetterli From: Officer Joseph N. Nemelka



Subject: Special Request

During the last four years I have enjoyed my work in the Salt Lake Police Department, but have never felt that I have accomplished enough good in my work.

It has always been my desire to function as a member of the Crime Prevention Bureau in working with the juveniles. I am uninformed as to the proper procedure to follow in making this request, so I am taking the liberty of writing this letter to you as the head of the police department.

In my religious affiliation I had the opportunity of serving the younger generation for a number of years. I have served as Scoutmaster Assistant, M Men supervisor and as a member of the bishopric spent four years teaching boys 14 to 16 years of age. I feel that this experience has somewhat given me an insight to the juvenile problem. I am certainly in



Joe, the bicycle man

terested in the rehabilitation of boys that I have six boys of my own whom I desire to become good and upright citizens.

I sincerely believe that I can serve the department much more in crime prevention work than in the type of work I am now doing. I have no fault to find with what I am assigned to do, but feel that I can render greater service in a work I enjoy.



Vouth Ruran 1052



Police Radio Terminal (1965-1966)

I would appreciate if you would give this some consideration and want you to know that if you feel that I am needed somewhere else I am willing to work to the best of my ability.

Respectfully, Joseph N. Nemelka

The responsibility Joe enjoyed most while on the police force was the bicycle division—the job he received after writing this letter. It was day work, and he could be home with the boys more in the evening, could take care of his church duties, could attend the sports competitions in which the boys were involved, and could take me out once a week to a show. He received free tickets to the Utah theatre for several years. At the time of his first heart attack, he was a radio operator at the Liberty Park Station.

After Joe retired from the Police Department in the spring of 1966, he worked for the Historian's Department of the Church and held that position at the time of his death in 1971.

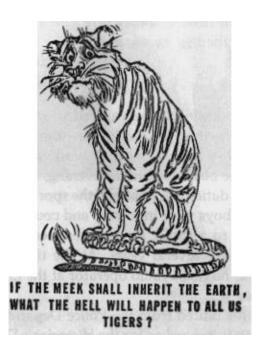
I have already mentioned his two extra jobs: working for Mike Kessimakis at Growers Market and cleaning the offices of the Southern Pacific Railroad. Both of these jobs were terminated in 1954 when Joe became Bishop.

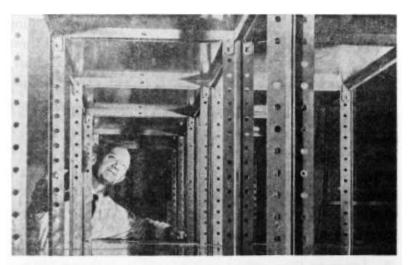
Among his many papers, I found the following "Rules of Life" that Joe tried to follow in making his life a successful one:

- 1. Systematize Your Life
 - a. Get up at the same time, etc.
 - b. Have a routine in life.
 - c. Have a daily schedule.
 - d. Don't waste any time.

2. Learn to Play

a. Have wholesome recreation.





Joseph N. Nemelka, center supervisor, inspects steel shelving to hold additional Church records, Church Historian's Office.

- 3. Work! Work!
 - a. Develop responsibility.
 - b. Learn a vocation of some kind.
- 4. Have an Aim
- 5. Seek Encouragement
- 6. Evaluate Your Own Life
 - a. Don't be ashamed of yourself.
 - b. Don't be ashamed of your religion.

When we were first married, Joe attended the Republican Party Committee meetings, but when he became a police officer he could not be active in politics so he withdrew from these activities.

However, after his first major heart attack in 1965, Joe became active again in politics. He and Carl discussed political party philosophies, and Joe changed to the Democratic Party because of Carl. Carl said he didn't think his dad really understood the Republican Party theories. Joe and Carl discussed how the Democrats tried to help the poor and were definitely for the working man. Joe, being who and what he was, thereafter became a staunch Democrat. He was Party Chairman in our district many times.

Carl was running for County Attorney in 1967, and Joe decided to run for Mayor. The big issue of the 1967 election was the "Liquor by the Drink Bill." Joe was so against liquor that he spoke rather strongly in public about his views. He received a great amount of criticism because of his stand. One time, some fellow called him at 3:00 a.m. from a bar. The fellow admitted he was drunk, and he used really ugly and obscene offensive language. Poor Joe was sitting in his den half asleep trying to listen to the fellow curse and yell. That was really an upsetting experience. Joe lost the Primary election, but he gained a

JOSEPH N. NEMELKA

FOR MAYOR

SALT LAKE CITY'S FINEST

PAID POLITICAL ADVERTISEMENT BY PHIL M. BIRDSALL



Ex-Officer Seeks Mayor's Chair

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Joseph N. Nemelka
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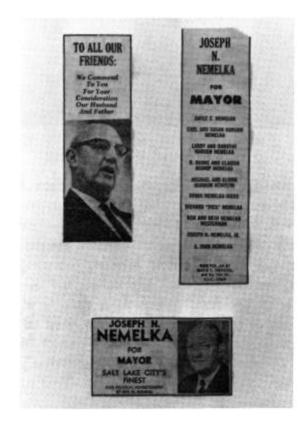
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We send for the Constitution of the United Stotes As Having Sean Divicely Inspired. Secrets About Liquor IT IS A not-too-well-kept secret that certain individuals are now trying to organize to put a liquor-by-the-drink vote on the election ballot next November. Their argument is going to be that the religious belief of the majority of Utah citizens shouldn't deprive other citizens of the right to buy liquor by the drink. That sounds reasonable and broadminded But as someone has said, it is important not to get so broadminded we lone our heads. It is also important to look at facts that have little or nothing to do with religion. It is a fact, never challenged, that liquor causes crimed, juvenile delinquency, police problems, traffic deaths, broken homes and divorce, the need for child-support by the taxpayers, and a breakdown in production rates among the work-force. Oxyoomly the more liquor is drunk, the more these problems multiply. Inserve another facts Liquor by the drink means more liquor is drunk, the more these problems multiply. Inserve another facts Liquor by the drink means more liquor is drunk. States with bottle-package sales only, like Utah, consumed 30 gallous of liquor per-capits in 11051. Liquor-by-the-drink states consumed 1.50 gainst the religions, are happy with them, and have stuck to them despite the most intentive pressure that money-hungry with them, and have stuck to them despite the most intentive pressure that money-hungry with them, and have stuck to them despite the most intentive pressure that money-hungry with them, and have stuck to them despite the most intentive pressure that money-hungry with them, and have stuck to them despite the most intentive pressure that money-hungry with them are them to the most them.

lot of experience, especially about how to react to strong criticism.

In 1970, Joe wanted to be a member of the House of Representatives so he personally visited the delegates in our area and most of them promised to vote for him. However, we already had our tickets for our trip to Hawaii, so he decided that it wouldn't matter if he were in Salt Lake or not—the delegates promised to vote for him. However, while we were gone, one of the others who was also running told all the delegates that Joe didn't care enough to stay during the election. That turned the

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vote in favor of the other guy. When Joe found out what had taken place behind his back, he was hurt by the falsehoods and vowed never to work in politics again, Of course, he died the next year, so the Democratic Party had to get along without him.